AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A method of detecting proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1, phosphorylated Smad1, activin receptor-like kinase 1, activin receptor-like kinase 3 and bone morphogenetic proteins in a biological sample.

Claim 2 (original): A method of evaluating the degree of progress and/or the efficacy of treatment of proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1, phosphorylated Smad1, activin receptor-like kinase 1, activin receptor-like kinase 3 and bone morphogenetic proteins in a biological sample.

Claim 3 (original): A kit for detecting proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1, phosphorylated Smad1, activin receptor-like kinase 1, activin receptor-like kinase 3 and bone morphogenetic proteins in a biological sample.

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Claim 4 (original): A kit for evaluating the degree of progress and/or the efficacy of treatment of proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1, phosphorylated Smad1, activin receptor-like kinase 1, activin receptor-like kinase 3 and bone morphogenetic proteins in a biological sample.

Claim 5 (original): A method of detecting diabetic nephropathy, comprising measuring the expression of Smad1 and/or a substance having Smad1-activating effect in a biological sample.

Claim 6 (original): A method of evaluating the degree of progress and/or the efficacy of treatment of diabetic nephropathy, comprising measuring the expression of Smad1 and/or a substance having Smad1-activating effect in a biological sample.

Claim 7 (original): A kit for detecting diabetic nephropathy, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of Smad1 and/or a substance having Smad1-activating effect.

Claim 8 (original): A kit for evaluating the degree of progress and/or the efficacy of treatment of diabetic nephropathy, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of Smad1 and/or a substance having Smad1-activating effect.

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Claim 9 (original): A prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising as an active ingredient a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 10 (original): A drug inhibiting the increase of extracellular matrix, comprising as an active ingredient a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 11 (original): A drug inhibiting the expression of $\alpha1$ type IV collagen, comprising as an active ingredient a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 12 (original): A method of identifying substances effective in preventing and/or treating proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising judging whether or not a test substance inhibits the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 13 (original): A method of identifying substances effective in inhibiting the increase of extracellular matrix, comprising judging whether or not a test

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substance inhibits the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 14 (original): A method of identifying substances effective in inhibiting the expression of α1 type IV collagen, comprising judging whether or not a test substance inhibits the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 15 (original): A kit for identifying substances effective in preventing and/or treating proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 16 (original): A kit for identifying substances effective in inhibiting the increase of extracellular matrix, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 17 (original): A kit for identifying substances effective in inhibiting the expression of α1 type IV collagen, comprising a reagent(s) for measuring the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

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Claim 18 (new): A method for producing a prophylactic and/or therapeutic effect on proliferative diseases causing sclerosis, comprising administering to a subject a drug including a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 19 (new): A method of inhibiting an increase of extracellular matrix, comprising administering to a subject a drug including a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 20 (new): A method of inhibiting an increase of extracellular matrix, comprising providing to a sample a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 21 (new): A method of inhibiting an expression of $\alpha 1$ type IV collagen, comprising administering to a subject a drug including a substance having an inhibitory effect on the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 22 (new): A method of inhibiting an expression of $\alpha 1$ type IV collagen, comprising providing to a sample a substance having an inhibitory effect on

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the expression of at least one substance selected from the group consisting of STAT3, phosphorylated STAT3, Smad1 and phosphorylated Smad1.

Claim 23 (new): A method of claim 18, wherein the substance to be administered includes antisense oligonucleotides to Smad1, Smad1 Antagonistic Effector, an anti-PDGF β receptor antibody, or antisense oligonucleotides to STAT3.

Claim 24 (new): A method of claim 18, wherein the substance to be administered has a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 13.